

## National Republican.

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Under the provisions of the act of Congress approved February 21, 1871, a Territorial government was established in the District of Columbia. Its result will be to increase the population of the city, and to expand the organization of its administration. Under the direction of the territorial officers, a system of improvements has been inaugurated, by means of which Washington is rapidly becoming a city worthy of the nation's capital. The citizens of the District, having reluctantly taxed themselves to the advancement of the seat of Government, I recommend liberal appropriations to the part of Congress, so that the Government may bear its just share of the expense of carrying out a judicious scheme of improvements."—President Grant's Message.

MRS. GRANT'S Tuesday afternoon reception will be discontinued until after Lent.

THE SAILE OF ARMS.

The Second Missouri Cavalry was another of those long duration discussions on a subject in no way affecting the general welfare of the country, in no way bearing on general legislation, for which body has latterly become so remarkable. We have had three or four of these exhibitions during the present session. The first one, as we remember correctly, was on the New York custom-house business; the second was on the resolution to adjourn on a certain date, and so on, and so on. The public mind was irritated away on all these questions, mainly through the efforts of the gentlemen who have set themselves up as leaders of the opposition, the administration of President Grant, and of the administration of Mr. Sumner, in his popular esteem; and, of course, it will come to the last, of breaking up the Republican party if it shall become necessary to defeat his renomination and re-election.

The most reckless and desperate effort to that end was made in the Senate yesterday, and the day before by Mr. Sumner in his attempt to fasten what he was pleased to call "suspicion" on the Administration in the matter of the sale of some arms which were sold under the authority and by the direction of Congress some time ago. Mr. Sumner endeavored yesterday to show two things first, that our Government had sold arms to certain parties, and that in some very large amount of money was made by us, as indicated by the cost of the Administration in getting them, they were sent to the French Government. Mr. Sumner failed to establish either of his propositions. He made a good deal of noise, his election was good; his career was passable, the galleries and his brethren on the floor, as well as the reporters in the gallery, gave him an attentive hearing; Mr. Schurz seemed deeply interested in what he said, and occasionally prompted him, but the best friends of Charles Sumner were grieved at the false position in which he had permitted himself to be placed.

What they saw was this: Mr. Sumner, the great moral leader, whom they well knew and loved, and followed so long, endeavored to take away the character and the position of the President of the United States of the Government, he was pleased to call it, by mass accusation and "fool suspicion." They saw Charles Sumner playing the role of the demagogue and the political trickster; they saw the great statesman of Massachusetts trailing his name and fame in the slimy paths of low and contemptible intrigues. His resolution and speech was a mere subterfuge. Mr. Sumner, when he spoke about France, addressed himself to Germany. It was the German voter he endeavored to influence, and not the Swiss. He was a member of the party of honest honest of the Administration; there he did about the German element—the German vote that he tried to drive into the ranks of the political party that struck him down in the Senate years ago; that fought the battles of slavery, and that sets his face again his favorite measure of civil rights. It was pliful, this appeal to passion, and predition, and hate; this stirring up of discord, and dissension, and discord. It was unworthy of Charles Sumner, and it his biography should point to one blot upon his record, and will be the which his own hand threw upon it yesterday.

Mr. Sumner has already failed in this latest attack on the Administration. No one who reads the report of his speech will deny that he failed. By and by, when the heat of his passion had cooled, he will acknowledge to himself that he failed and blundered, and will condemn the false friends who put him into this false position as unworthy of him. As for the Administration in common with his friends on the floor we hope that the investigation may be made, and made quickly. Its vindication will be full and complete, for it has done nothing of which we can be ashamed—and none which will not bear the most rigid scrutiny and examination.

Mr. SUMNER only failed in his great speech in the Senate yesterday, but it seems he has been very handsomely taken in by the Marquis de Chastellier, his personal friend, who induced him to take this step, that the French Ambassador, and that the French Ambassador was so far as it was concerned.

A dispatch to the Boston Journal says that "the completed canvas of the Portsmouth Senatorial district, which gave 245 majority to the Republican candidate for Senator last year, shows the district to be Republican this year by 300 majority."

THE HON. SCHUYLER COLFAX is all right. Dana's blackmailing has been him.

PERSONAL.—Chasney Balkum, son, with bride, of New Haven, Conn., are settling at the Arlington, in our city, for a few days.

Two ambitious women have applied for confidential positions on the New York Central.

The widow of the late General Hale was appointed to the post of Superintendent of Schools, and she is now in our city.

Senators Wilson and General Slocum will narrow New Hampshire and Connecticut for the election.

Dr. Livingston, the African explorer, is traveling night and day trying to avoid the press. He is a hero correspondent and escapee interview.

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